A COMPLETELY NEW SERIES BY SHIBASHI HIROSHI, AUTHOR OF "NURARIHYON NO MAGO" AND "ILLEGAL RARE". WELCOME TO THE FRESH NEW WORLD OF "KIGO".

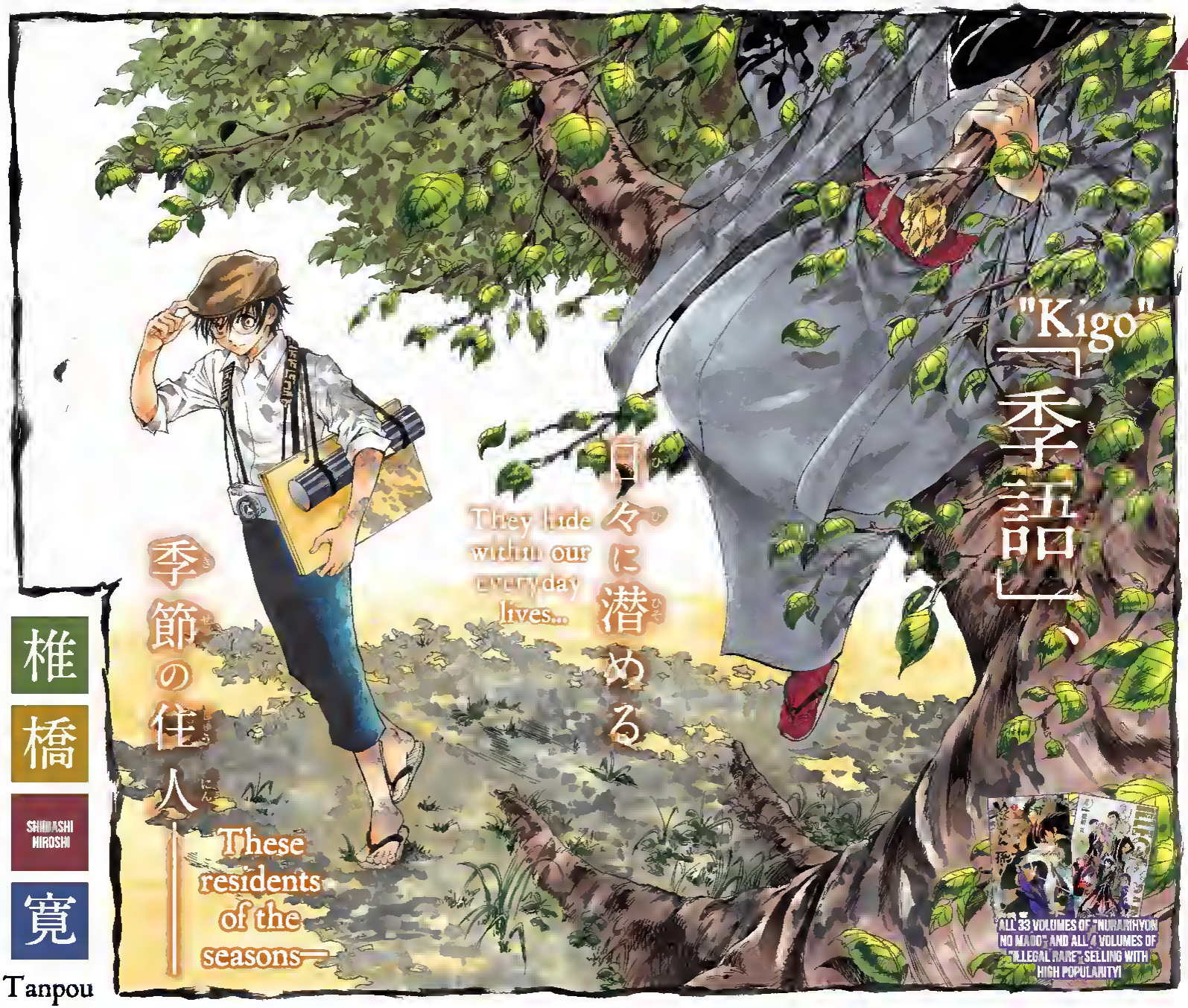
【東京季語譚訪】

とうきょうきごたんぼう

椎橋寛

SHIIBASHI HIROSHI

Tokyo Kigo Tanpou


"Kigo"「季語」、
日々に潜める
They hide within our everyday lives...
季節の住人
These residents of the seasons—
ALL 33 VOLUMES OF "NURARIHYON NO MAGO" AND ALL 4 VOLUMES OF "ILLEGAL RARE" SELLING WITH HIGH POPULARITY!

CHAPTER 1 OF A NEW SHUUALIZATION

☆ A BEAUTIFUL DRAWING STYLE ILLUSTRATES THE WORLD OF "KIGO". COLOR PAGE WITH 47 PAGES TOTAL!

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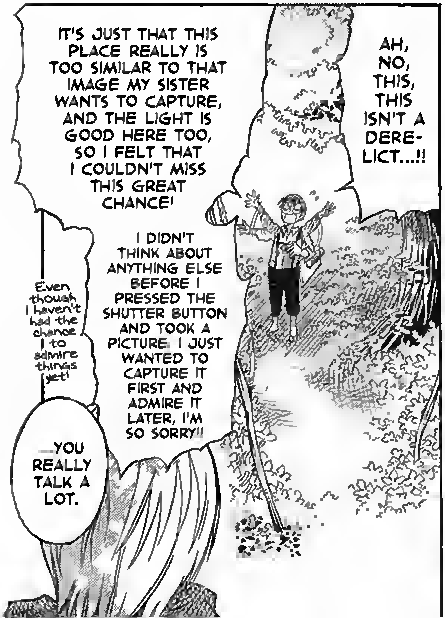
☆LITTLE ALLEYWAYS, BROKEN DOWN HOUSES, WATERWAYS. A COLORFUL VIEW OF A DAILY LIFE.
ガシャ

IT TOTALLY CAPTURES THAT IMAGE MY BIG SISTER WANTS.
THIS REALLY IS A NICE PLACE.
WHEW...
HEY, HEY.
HEHE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THERE'S SOMEBODY HERE...!
EXCUSE ME!
I, I DIDN'T THINK SOMEBODY WOULD BE HERE...

YOU'RE HERE TO FILM THIS DERELICT RIGHT?
THERE HAVE BEEN LOTS OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT COMING HERE LATELY


AH, NO, THIS, THIS ISN'T A DERELICT...!!
IT'S JUST THAT THIS PLACE REALLY IS TOO SIMILAR TO THAT IMAGE MY SISTER WANTS TO CAPTURE, AND THE LIGHT IS GOOD HERE TOO, SO I FELT THAT I COULDN'T MISS THIS GREAT CHANCE!
I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE BEFORE I PRESSED THE SHUTTER BUTTON AND TOOK A PICTURE. I JUST WANTED TO CAPTURE IT FIRST AND ADMIRE IT LATER, I'M SO SORRY!!
Even though I haven't had the chance to admire things yet!
...YOU REALLY TALK A LOT.

IT'S OKAY. COME ON INSIDE.

……
TAKE AS MANY PICTURES AS YOU WANT.
IS IT REALLY OKAY?
えっ……
WOW.
A SUDDEN BLAST OF COLD WIND…

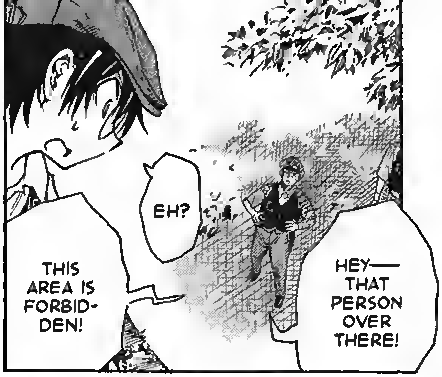
HM?
IS THIS PLACE REALLY AN ABANDONED DERELICT BUILDING...?
FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE A PERSON HAS SET FOOT IN THIS PLACE.
HP...
.....
THIS DIFFERENCE WITH THE LIGHT OF THE INSIDE AND OUT REALLY IS QUITE INTER-ESTING...
OHH... FOUND IT.
EH? WHERE DID I PUT IT...
NEED TO WRITE DOWN MY THOUGHTS TO PREPARE FOR BIG SIS' ASSAULT OF QUESTIONS!
AH... RIGHT NOTEPAD, NOTEPAD...

"THIS DARKNESS IS PERFECT FOR A PERSON TO TEST HIS BLADE ON ANOTHER PERSON", RIGHT?
S...SORRY. I SPACED OUT FOR A SECOND THERE..
I AM QUITE GLAD.
THERE ARE VERY FEW PEOPLE WHO COME IN HERE LIKE YOU DO.
BUT YOU STILL MANAGED TO *ENTER HERE*.
YOUR CAMERA DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE HIGH END SORT, AND YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A PROFESSIONAL
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHO ARE YOU?
YOU SAID... SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR SISTER JUST NOW, RIGHT?
Y...YES. MY SISTER...IS A "WRITER".
MY SISTER AND I ARE TWINS... I'M HELPING HER OUT.
SHE WAS THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO LOOK FOR GOOD LOOKING DERELICTS...

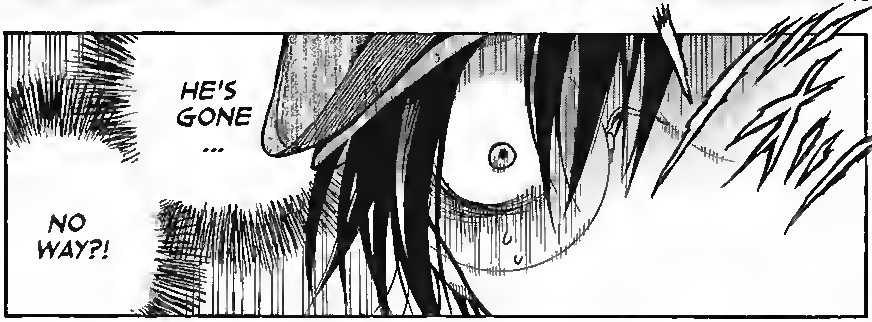
AL-RIGHT
EH, YES...
Wh-t- ever have some te-
Thank you
I SEE.. NO WONDER A NORMAL WANDERING PEDESTRIAN WHO'S NOT EVEN AN ARTIST SUCH AS YOURSELF WOULD COME IN HERE.
A BIT...
DO YOU KNOW HOW TO PLAY?
G-GO?
CAN YOU PLAY A ROUND OF "GO" WITH ME?
IT'S SO DARK IN HERE...
WHAT'S THIS BLACK STUFF HE'S TALKING ABOUT...
EH...
THEN TAKE THE BLACK AND STRIVE FORWARD.
EXCUSE ME...
CAN'T SEE CLE-ARLY...

WELL, AFTER ALL, THIS IS SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE HELPED.
YOU SHOULD JUST GO BACK.
YOU CAN'T SEE CLEARLY?
PEOPLE ALWAYS LOSE THINGS IN THE DARK...
SO I MUST ASK YOU TO TAKE CARE...
OH, RIGHT.
THIS SUDDEN BLAST OF WIND...
HEY, HEY——!
ERM

DON'T TALK NONSENSE! THIS PLACE WAS ABANDONED A COUPLE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.
AH...
THIS PERSON... LIVES HERE THOUGH...


EH?
THIS AREA IS FORBID-DEN!
HEY—— THAT PERSON OVER THERE!

HURRY UP AND GET DOWN FROM THERE!!


HE'S GONE ...
NO WAY?!

AHAHA-HAHA-HAHA-HAHA!
WAS IT A GHOST?! OR A MONSTER?!
AHAHAHA

NOBODY ELSE IS ABLE TO ENCOUNTER THIS SORT OF STUFF OTHER THAN YOU!
SO YOU BELIEVE IT JUST LIKE THAT?
AS EXPECTED OF THE FROGGY!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF TALKING ABOUT BELIEVING IT OR NOT...? YOU ARE FROGGY AFTER ALL!
EVEN THOUGH WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE..
THESE PICTURES ARE FANTASTIC.
AS EXPECTED OF FROGGY! HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS... I CAN CLEARLY FEEL THAT PRESENCE OF THE SEASONS WITHIN THEM.

I KNEW YOU WOULD DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO FIND SOMETHING FOR ME——!
THE DERELICT WAS A GREAT IDEA ♪
YEP ♪
SEASONS...?
MY SISTER IS A POPULAR WRITER...
I EXPECT MORE OF YOUR GREAT WORK!
AH, YES...
B...BUT, IS IT REALLY OKAY TO LIVE YOUR LIFE LIKE THIS...?
SHE'S ALSO A FORTUNE TELLER AND SOMETIMES A DETECTIVE.
AND A REPORTER,
AND A MODEL.
ARA. OF COURSE IT'S OKAY.
SHE LOOKS SO TALENTED AND SUPER BUSY TODAY TOO...

YOU IDIOT——!!
FOR EVERY-BODY IN THIS WORLD.
IT'S NOT THOUGH...
IT'S NOT FOR WHOM?
EVERYTHING YOU SEE, HEAR, AND EXPERIENCE WILL AL——L GET SENT STRAIGHT TO ME!
YOU ARE MY "BRAIN", YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE WE ARE TWINS.

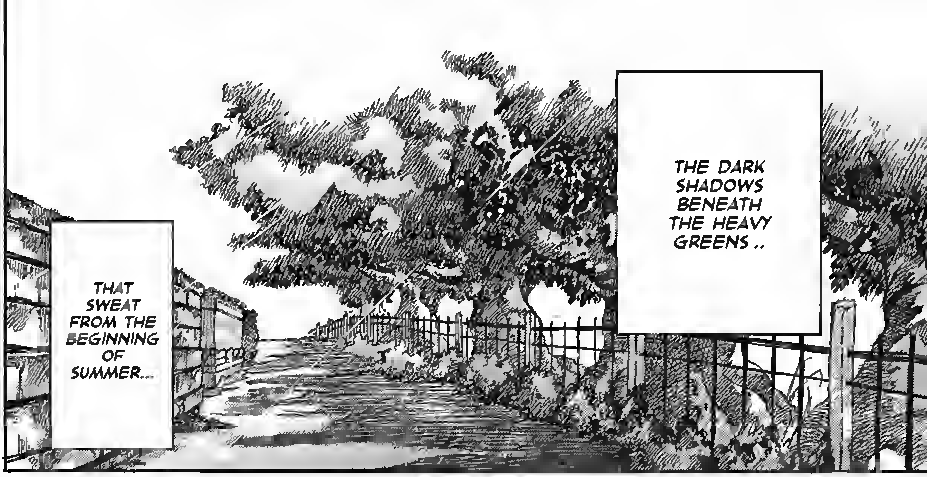
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT STUFF LIKE OUR LIVES, OKAY?
YOUR BIG SISTER WILL HANDLE EVERY-THING FOR YOU... YOU KNOW THAT? MY DARLING LITTLE BROTHER...
ALSO, YOU HAVE THAT "SENSITIVITY" THAT NORMAL PEOPLE DON'T HAVE.
EVER SINCE YOU WERE YOUNG, YOU WERE ABLE TO SEE THINGS THAT OTHER PEOPLE CAN'T... I'M JUST DISTRIBUT-ING THESE THINGS TO THE WORLD AS A "SCRIBE", THAT'S ALL.
SO YOU NEED TO HOLD ON TIGHT TO THIS "SENSITIVITY".
YOUR SISTER WILL ALWAYS, ALWAYS... SUPPORT YOU.

I WAS ASLEEP FOR "A TOTAL OF 3 YEARS".
FROM AGES 15 TO 18.
EVEN THOUGH I DON'T REMEMBER THEM, APPARENTLY THOSE WERE SOME WONDER-OUS DREAMS.
APPAR-ENTLY I HAD A LOT OF DREAMS.
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT'S THE MEMORY SHARING PART OF BEING A TWIN...
BUT APPARENTLY MY SCHOLARLY GIFTED SISTER, WHO WAS AL-READY REALLY TALENTED, HAD BEEN CONSTANTLY WRITING MY DREAMS INTO STORIES.
MY SISTER WAS ALREADY A SUC-CESSFUL WRITER.
WHEN I WOKE UP...

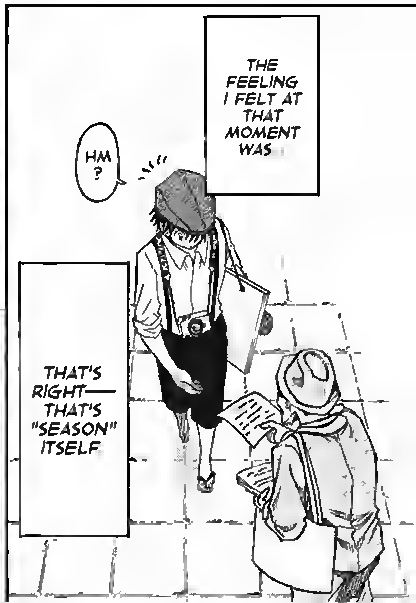
IT WAS ONLY RECENTLY THAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO MOVE OUTSIDE
AFTER THAT, I FINALLY MADE IT OFF THE BED...
I LIKE THE COOL TEMPERATURE AND VIEW OF THE EARLY MORNING AND DUSK.
SO I INSISTED UPON MYSELF TO USE SKETCHING AND PHOTOGRAPHY AS A WAY OF RECOVERY...
MY SISTER NOW TELLS THE UNSETTLED ME, THAT THINGS ARE FINE THE WAY THEY ARE...
YES... THANK YOU, AKAE-CHAN.
AH, ONE MORE THING!
I'M NOT GOOD AT DRAWING OR TAKING PICTURES...
SO I THINK THE TWO OF US REALLY MAKE UP FOR EACH OTHER'S FAULTS!
YOU NEED TO TELL ME IF YOU MEET HIM AGAIN, OKAY?!
THAT BEAUTIFUL PERSON IN JAPANESE STYLED CLOTHING!

AFTER THAT, MY SISTER STARTING WORKING ON OTHER STUFF... SHE SEEMS QUITE BUSY.
COMPARED TO HER, I REALLY HAVE NOTHING TO DO...
SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT THING?
ARE THERE ANY CLUES...
IF I SEE HIM AGAIN... HOW DO I DO THAT?
SEASONS
SEASONS
I WENT BACK TO THAT DERELICT AGAIN AND AGAIN, BUT HE NEVER APPEARED.
HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THOSE THINGS...
GHOST ? MONSTER?
OUCH ...
WHAT'S GOING ON, MY EYE IS STINGING..

I FELT AS IF MY SUFFERING OF BEING ALONE WAS GONE FOR A MOMENT...
I SUDDENLY FELT REALLY GOOD...
I REMEMBER.. BEFORE MEETING HIM..
AROUND THE TIME WHEN I WAS IN 5TH GRADE IN ELEMENTARY THERE'S THIS GAME I OFTEN USED TO PLAY BEFORE I FELL INTO THAT COMA.
I'VE FELT IT MANY TIMES BEFORE.
THAT FEELING I HAD AT THAT MOMENT...
I THINK THAT I ALWAYS FELT SO EXCITED BECAUSE THE WORLD I WASN'T FAMILIAR WITH WAS SUCH A HUGE PLACE
I KEEP RIDING AND I KEEP RIDING——
I RODE MY BIKE TO CITIES UNKNOWN TO ME——
THE ORDINARY WILD GROWTHS CAN ALSO TURN INTO A MAGICAL REALM.
THE GRASS AND THE ROCKS ALL HAVE SPECIAL MEANINGS TO THEM.
NOW THAT I THINK BACK ON IT, THOSE ORDINARY RESIDENTIAL AREAS WERE LIKE THE MAZES FOR MY "ADVENTURES".


THE DARK SHADOWS BENEATH THE HEAVY GREENS..
THAT SWEAT FROM THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER...

HAIKU... SOCIETY?


THE FEELING I FELT AT THAT MOMENT WAS
HM?
THAT'S RIGHT—— THAT'S "SEASON" ITSELF.

"THE SEASON ITSELF"
I REMEMBER THAT IF IT'S A HAIKU—
Ah, it's yours, Person...How rare...
"THE THEME THIS TIME IS 'SPRING'"
"KIGO"...?
"THE HAIKU DISPLAYED THIS TIME CAPTURES THAT FEELING OF SPRING EVERYBODY FELT IN TOKYO
HOPE YOU CAN ALSO...
FEEL THAT PRESENCE OF SPRING"
THERE MUST BE A "KIGO" (SEASONAL PHRASE).
THAT IS USED TO REPRESENT THE SEASON...
"SHUNDE!"
OH... THE "MUD OF SPRING TIME"...

"HANABIE"
A SUDDEN RETURN TO COLD DURING SPRING TIME.
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL PHRASE——
?!
"OBO-RODZUKI"
THE PARTLY OBSCURED MOON OF THE SPRING TIME NIGHT SKY.
"TOSEI"
STEPPING ON THE GREEN GRASS BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD AND LEISURELY MEANDERING ABOUT.
"SHUSEN"
ANOTHER NAME FOR SWINGS.
"ITOYU"
ANOTHER NAME FOR THE MAYFLY.
"KO-TENSHI"
ANOTHER NAME FOR THE SKYLARK.
"OTOSHI-DZUNO"
MEANS THE HORNS FALLEN OFF OF A MALE DEER.
"KAERU NO MEKARI-DOKI"
A TIME WHEN IT'S EASY TO FALL ASLEEP.
"KAME-NAKU"
THE SOUND A TURTLE MAKES THAT PEOPLE IMAGINE.
"SUIKENGI"
ANOTHER NAME FOR BUBBLES.

WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW...?
NOT GOOD... IF I USE TOO MUCH OF MY "POWER" THEN——
...
I WOULD FALL ASLEEP
.....

A SHRINE ...?
IN THIS NARROW SPACE BETWEEN SKYSCRAP-ERS...
SEEMS LIKE NOT A LOT OF PEOPLE COME HERE...

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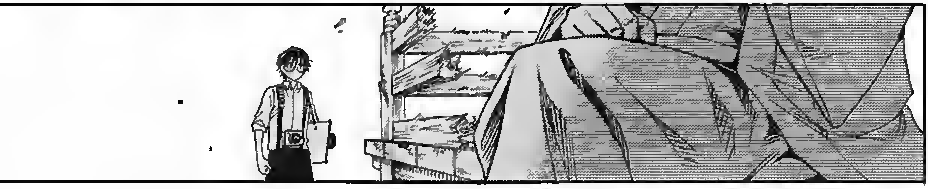
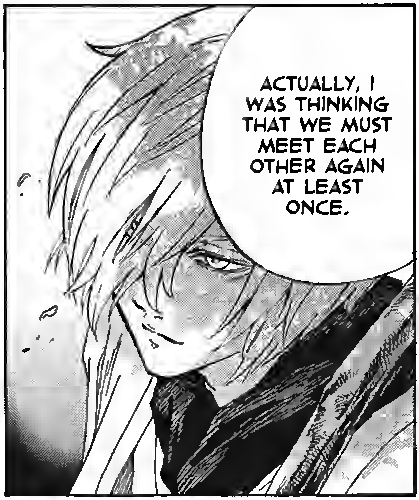
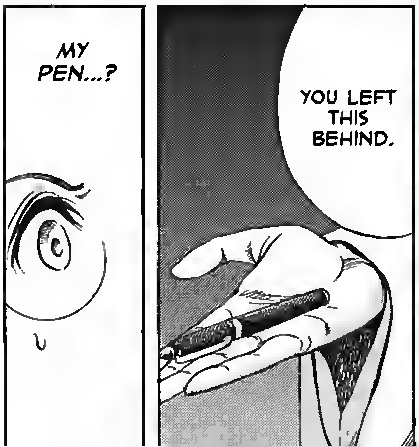
ガヴ...
THE DARK SHADOWS OF THE DEEP GREEN...
I CAN'T EVEN SEE THE GRAFITTI ON THE WALLS CLEARLY...
THE SACRED TREES ARE TALL.

I CAN FEEL IT...
THE "SEASON" HERE...
AH.



YOU ARE...
ERM ...


ACTUALLY, I WAS THINKING THAT WE MUST MEET EACH OTHER AGAIN AT LEAST ONCE.


MY PEN...?
YOU LEFT THIS BEHIND.

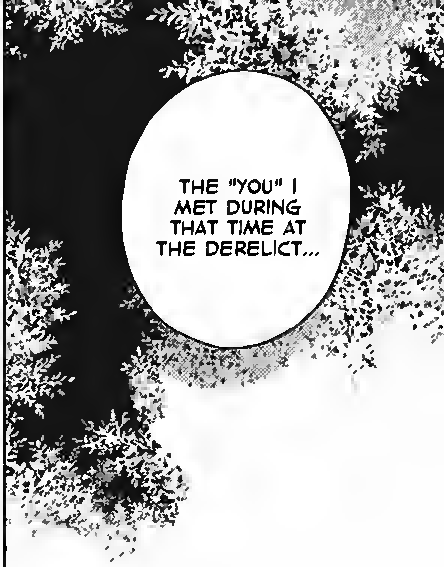
HEY.
WE MEET AGAIN.

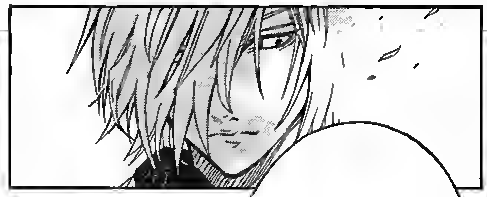
THIS CAN'T BE HELPED. IT JUST TURNS OUT LIKE THIS IF YOU DON'T PAY ATTENTION.
HUH?
Branches
HUH?
NO, I DIDN'T LEAVE IT BEHIND... I REMEMBER...
IT SEEMS THAT YOU MISPLACED THIS AS WELL...
AND YOU WERE IN TOO MUCH OF A HURRY WHEN YOU LEFT.
THE "SHADOW OF GREEN" AT SUMMER'S BEGINNING IS VERY DARK.
I SAID IT SO MANY TIMES ALREADY. YOU CAN'T GET THESE THINGS WRONG.

EH...!?
IT SEEMS THAT YOU MISTOOK YOUR EYE...
EH...!?
AH...
EH...?
FLAP
FLAP
FOR THE DEAD BODIES OF BUTTERFLIES AND RE-TURNED WITH THEM INSTEAD.
HOWEVER, THIS ALSO CAN'T BE HELPED... IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR YOU TO NOT RECOGNIZE THE DIFFERENCE IN THE DARKNESS.
THIS PERSON ...!!
HOW. HOW COULD THIS.
I CAN'T DO THAT.
THE THINGS MY DARKNESS SWALLOWS UP ARE MINE AND MINE TO KEEP... THEY ARE ALREADY DIFFERENT THAN THOSE THINGS OF REALITY.
PLEASE... PLEASE GIVE IT BACK TO ME.
EVEN. EVEN IF THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY...
I AM ALSO TROUBLED BY THIS...

IF YOU CAN COMPLETE OUR TRADITIONS CORRECTLY, THEN I WILL MAKE AN ALLOWANCE THIS TIME.
...I SEE IT LOOKS TO ME THAT YOU DIDN'T ENTER *THIS SIDE* ON PURPOSE AS WELL.
COME ON.
THE PHRASE THAT CONNECTS REALITY TO THIS PLACE——
PLEASE STATE MY NAME.
THE FEELING I FELT BEFORE I MET YOU... I KEPT THINKING ABOUT IT...
...AFTER THAT DAY, IN ORDER TO MEET YOU AGAIN, I ALSO DID SOME RESEARCH.
...THANK ...
THANK YOU...

YOUR...
"KIGO" IS...


THE "YOU" I MET DURING THAT TIME AT THE DERELICT...



THE DARKNESS THAT APPEARS UNDERNEATH DEEP FOLIAGE UNDER STRONG SUNLIGHT... WHICH IS TO SAY...
IT IS "KONO-SHITA-YAMI".

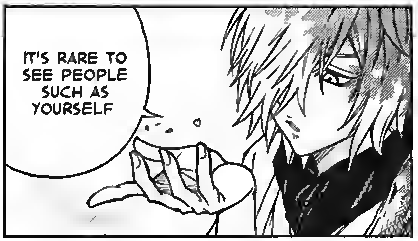
AND ALSO RIGHT NOW... BOTH GAVE OFF THE SAME SORT OF "SEASONAL" FEELING.

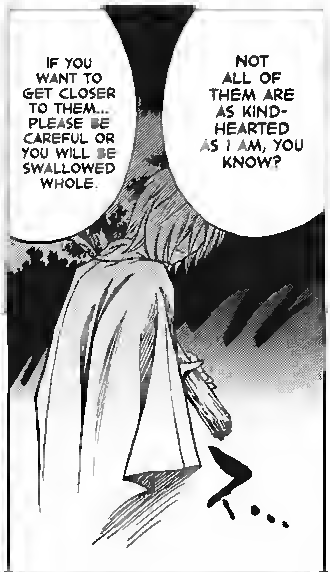
YOU ARE THE "KIGO" OF SUMMER'S BEGINNING.
KONOSHITA-YAMI.
TN: IT MEANS "THE DARKNESS BENEATH THE TREES"
WELL, ACTUALLY, I HAVE MANY NAMES.
BUT I'LL COUNT YOUR ANSWER AS CORRECT.

THAT'S CORRECT. I AM KONO-SHITAYAMI.
What troubles the butterfly within the shadows under the tree.
SINGER: MICHIHIKO
FROM: TSUTA NO MOTOSHU

THE DENIZENS OF THIS SIDE RARELY APPEAR IN FRONT OF THE PEOPLE OVER ON THAT SIDE.
H...
H...

BUT THEY ARE MOSTLY BEINGS THAT KEEP TO THEMSELVES.
IT'S BACK...
THERE'S ALL SORTS OF BEINGS


IT'S RARE TO SEE PEOPLE SUCH AS YOURSELF

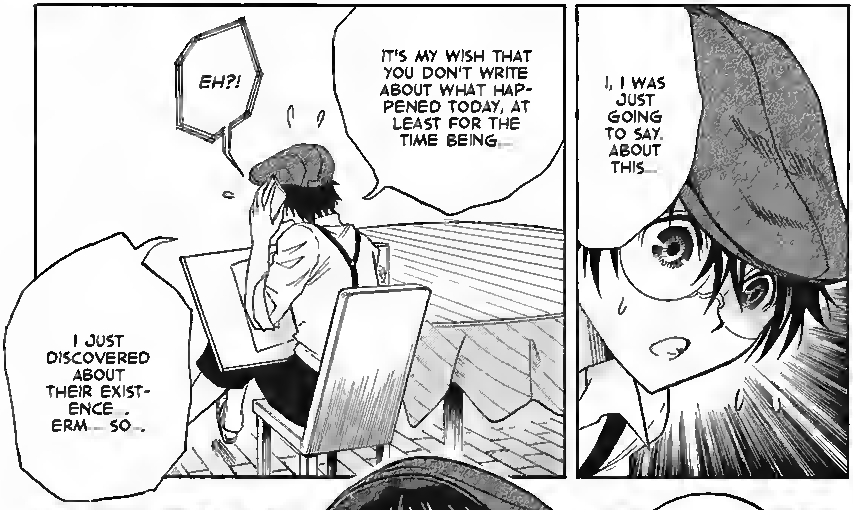

IF YOU WANT TO GET CLOSER TO THEM... PLEASE BE CAREFUL OR YOU WILL BE SWALLOWED WHOLE.
NOT ALL OF THEM ARE AS KIND-HEARTED AS I AM, YOU KNOW?
...

KONOSHITA... YAMI...-SAN...
KIGO...
OHO?
ISN'T THIS "ITOYU-SAN" I SEE?

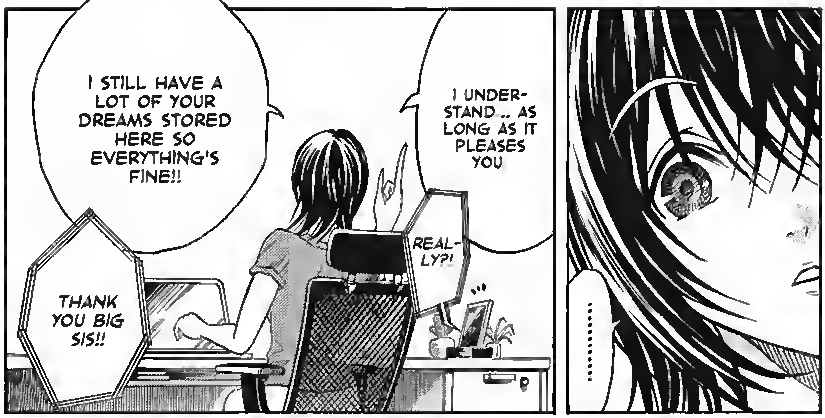
WHAT'S THIS? AREN'T YOU A "KIGO OF THE SPRING"?
KONO-SHITAYAMI-SAN?
ARA...
?!
I SOMETIMES WANT TO WALK AROUND DURING THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER TOO
I WAS PLANNING TO GO PICK SOME WILD VEGETABLES IN THE MOUNTAINS...
THERE ISN'T ANYBODY IN RECENT MEMORY THAT IS ABLE TO SEE ME...
$u...
IF YOU GO OVERBOARD WITH IT, THE HUMANS ARE GOING TO START YAMMERING ABOUT STRANGE WEATHER AGAIN
I WOULDN'T BE TOO SURE ABOUT THAT...
ARA...WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

AH... A PERSON LEFT HIS EYE AND PEN IN MY SHADOW RECENTLY.
ARA, DID YOU GIVE THEM BACK TO HIM?
YES, SAFE AND SOUND
IT'S JUST THAT.. BECAUSE HE PIQUED MY INTEREST..
I TOOK THEM AND ASKED AROUND ABOUT THEM——
IT SEEMS THAT HIS EYE ALREADY..
CAME OVER TO THIS SIDE AND TOURED AROUND MANY MANY TIMES——
BIG SIS, I...
FROGGY——!! THAT INK PAINTING YOU SENT OVER WAS FABULOUS——!!
WHAT? WHAT? WHAT ARE KIGO——!!

THAT'S REALLY GREAT... I NEVER IMAGINED THAT YOU COULD EVEN SEE THE PHRASES THAT REPRESENT SEASONS!
YOUR SISTER'S HEART STARTED RACING WHEN I SAW YOUR MAIL!
BUT IF I USE THIS THEME I COULD PROBABLY WRITE A WHOLE NEW SERIES AGAIN ♪


EH?!
IT'S MY WISH THAT YOU DON'T WRITE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TODAY, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING...
I, I WAS JUST GOING TO SAY, ABOUT THIS...
I JUST DISCOVERED ABOUT THEIR EXISTENCE, ERM... SO.

YOU CAN WRITE ABOUT IT AFTERWARDS... TIME IS NOT AN ISSUE, RIGHT?
ANYWAYS... I WANT TO... SEE MORE OF THEM!


I STILL HAVE A LOT OF YOUR DREAMS STORED HERE SO EVERYTHING'S FINE!!
I UNDERSTAND .. AS LONG AS IT PLEASES YOU
REALLY?!
THANK YOU BIG SIS!!
.....

.....
Beep
See ya~~
I LOVE YOU FROGGY CHU!
IT NEVER GETS BORING WITH YOU AROUND!
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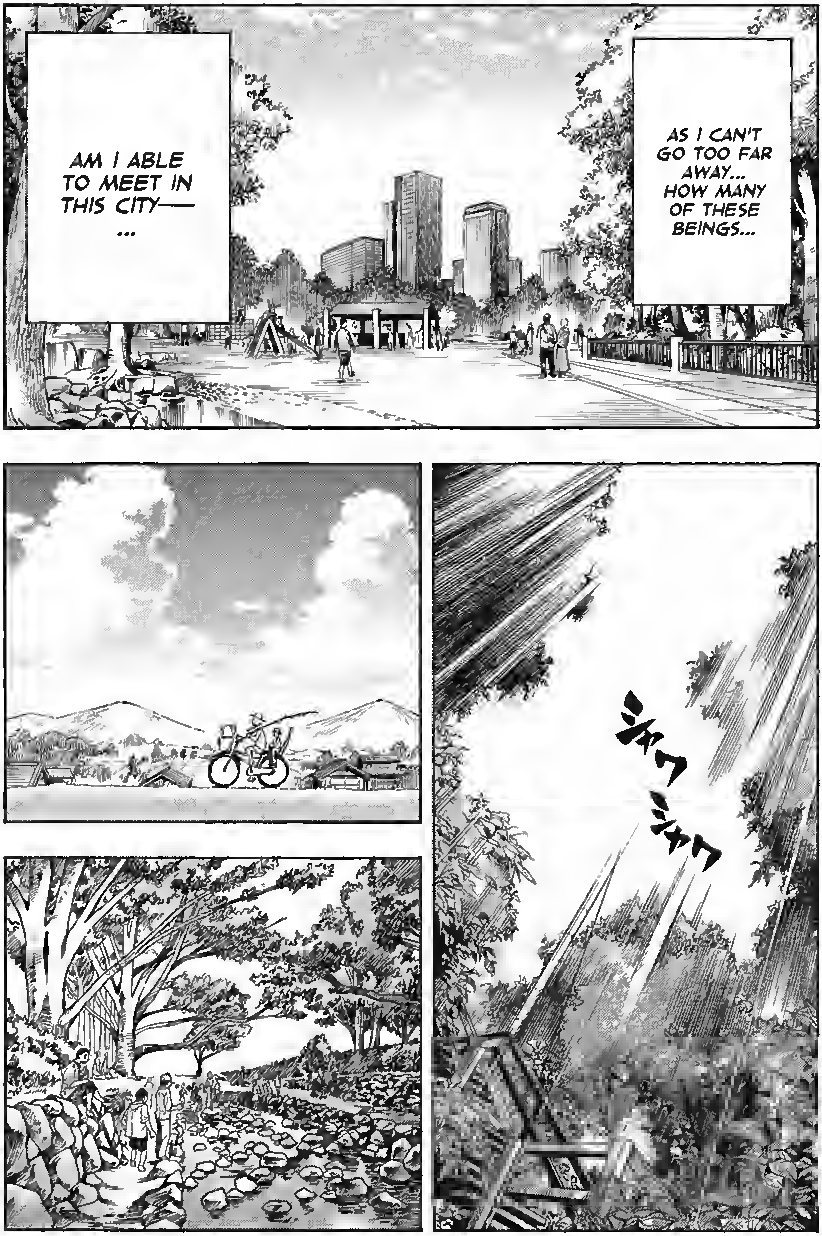
THE DENIZENS OF THE SEASONS...
KONO-SHITAYAMI-SAN... KIGO...
APPARENTLY YOU GET TO SEE THEM WHEN YOU FEEL THE PRESENCE OF THE SEASON——


AM I ABLE TO MEET IN THIS CITY—— …
AS I CAN'T GO TOO FAR AWAY… HOW MANY OF THESE BEINGS…
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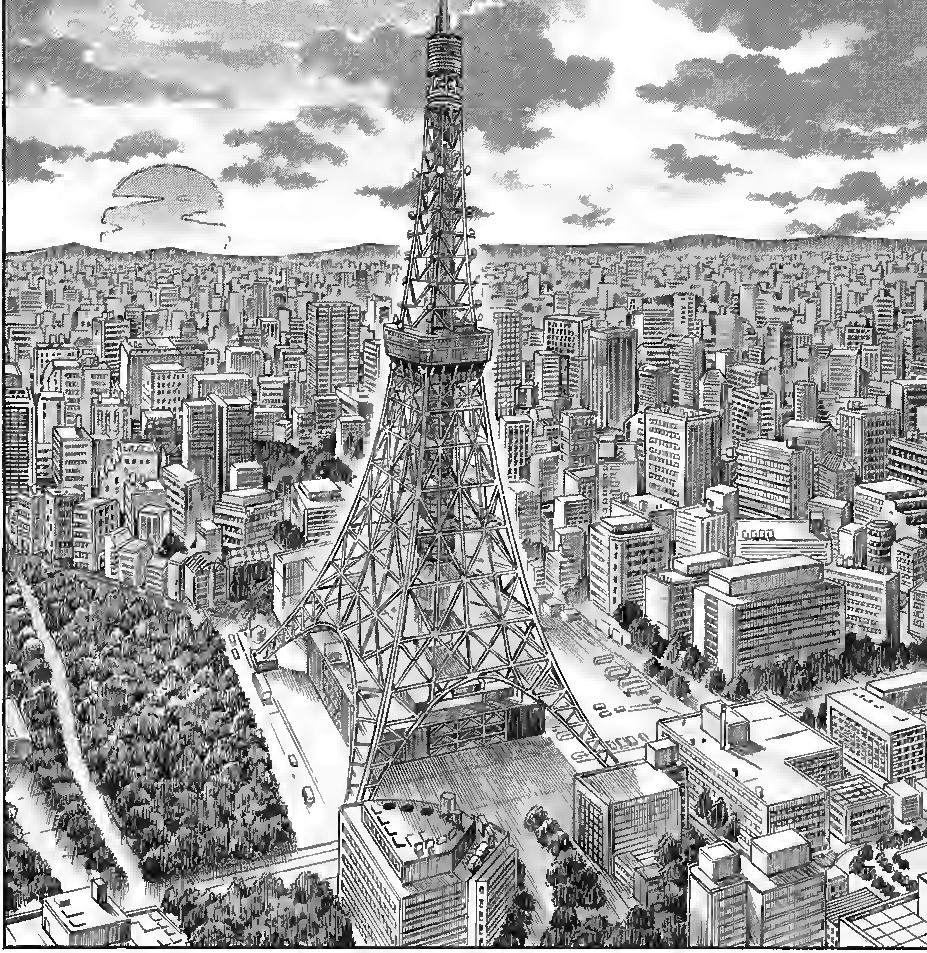

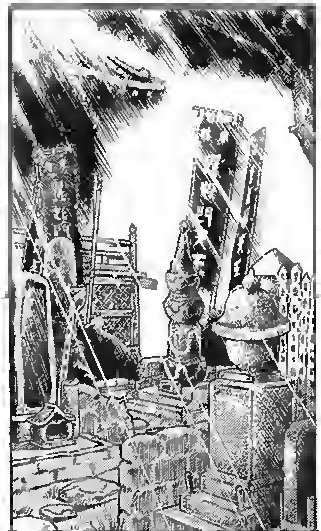

OHO?
HAVE YOU ALSO DISCOVERED ME? THAT PERSON OVER THERE...
☆AS LONG AS YOU CALL OUT THE SEASON, THEY WILL DEFINITELY BE THERE BY YOUR SIDE